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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Sarah Vowell Performs at the Cal Poly Theatre**

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA -- Celebrated author and social observer Sarah Vowell - best known for her comic monologues and documentaries for public radio's "This American Life" - brings her wry, insightful commentary to the Cal Poly Theatre stage on Friday, October 10, 2003, at 8 p.m.

The New York Times has commended her "funny querulous voice and shrewd comic delivery." The Los Angeles Times dubbed her "A Madonna of Americana."

Cal Poly Arts presents Vowell, a best-selling author whose publications include "Radio On: A Listener's Diary," "Take the Cannoli," and "The Partly Cloudy Patriot." She uses the great American tradition of the personal essay to amass a revealing portrait of contemporary American life.

A contributing editor to radio's "This American Life," Vowell has been a staple of popular staged shows around the country. She has written about everything from her father's homemade cannon and her obsession with the "Godfather" films to the New Hampshire primary and her Cherokee ancestors' forced march on the Trail of Tears.

The Boston Globe proclaimed, "Vowell is, at heart, a storyteller. Her gift is one of cosmic inclusion - allowing the natural collision of intellect and personality, rigorous research and generational quirks."

For her Cal Poly Arts show, Vowell will perform comic monologues and then take questions from the audience directly following her presentation.

The evening is sponsored by the Tribune and the Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts; also supported in part by funds from the California State Lottery.

Vowell will also bring more of her social commentary to a special October 10 afternoon performance and question/answer period, held from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. at the Cal Poly Theatre.

The free afternoon event, which is open to the public, is part of the Cal Poly English Dept.'s prestigious Writerspeak program and is co-sponsored by Cal Poly Arts.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. performance are \$24 & \$28 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office. Ticket Office hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call (805) 756-2787; to order by fax: (805) 756-6088.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

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